In re VILLAGRASA et al.

Reply to Office Action of Jan. 7, 2008

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A handle, in particular for motor vehicle strip doors, of

the type fastened in [[the]] a rear frame (20) of the window of each a door comprising a

gripping part (1a) that can be actuated manually via including a groove (2), and means for

transmitting the movement (6, 7, 9 to 13) of said gripping part (1a) to a lock so as to activate a

bolt of said lock to open said door, characterized in that wherein said transmission means (6,

7, 9 to 13) are arranged in a direction substantially parallel to [[the]] said gripping part (1a),

and mainly in [[the]] a lower zone thereof, so as to optimize [[the]] an internal longitudinal

space of said rear frame (20);

said handle further comprising a handle support (4) fastened in said rear frame of said

door and on which said gripping part (1a) of said handle (1) and at least part of said movement

transmission means (6, 7, 9 to 13) being arranged;

said gripping part (1a) comprising at each of its ends a guide element (6) cooperating

with said support (4) to allow said gripping part (1a) to move in translation relative to said

rear frame of said door when actuated by the user.

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Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (currently amended): [[The]] A handle, in particular for motor vehicle strip doors, mounted on a rear frame of a door as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises comprising:

a gripping part (1a) that can be actuated manually via a groove (2),

means for transmitting the movement (6, 7, 9 to 13) of said gripping part (1a) to a lock so as to activate a bolt of said lock to open said door,

a handle support (4) fastened in said frame of said door and supporting said gripping part (1a) of said handle (1) and at least part of said movement transmission means (6, 7, 9 to 13), and

a panel or mask (5) located in the same plane as [[the]] an external surface of [[the]] said rear frame (20)[[,]] at a certain distance from the handle (1)[[,]] so that said panel or mask (5) conceals said handle (1) from the outside,

wherein said transmission means (6, 7, 9 to 13) are arranged in a direction substantially parallel to said gripping part (1a), and mainly in a lower zone thereof, so as to optimize an internal longitudinal space of said rear frame (20).

Claim 4 (canceled)

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Claim 5 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 1 [[4]], characterized in

that wherein the gripping part (1a) moves both in translation and rotation when it is actuated

by the user; the direction of said translational movement of such that said gripping part moves

according to is oriented at a small angle with respect to an axis perpendicular to the surface of

the door.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 1 [[4]], characterized in

that wherein the gripping part comprises two guide elements (6) each located at one end of the

gripping element, which can slide along a rail (7) of the support (4), allowing the gripping part

to move in translation when it is actuated by the user.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that

wherein the translational movement of the gripping part (1a) of the handle (1), when actuated

by the user, is in a certain direction which maintains oriented at a small angle with respect to

an axis perpendicular to the surface of said panel or mask (5).

Claim 8 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 1 [[4]], characterized in

that it comprises further comprising, in [[its]] a side zone thereof closest to the groove (2) for

insertion of the hand, and a longitudinal protective wing (8) for covering said handle.

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Claim 9 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 1 [[4]], characterized in that wherein the means for transmitting the movement of the handle (1) comprise a pivoting pin (9) parallel to the gripping part (1a) of the handle (1), having two arms (10) each located at one end of the latter, each arm (10) having a shank (11) and each shank (11) being associated respectively with a guide element (6) of the gripping part (1a) of the handle (1); elastic return means for said pivoting pin (9); and a lever (12) which receives the movement of the arm (10)

located at the bottom and transmits it to a rod (3) of the lock which activates the bolt for

opening said door.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 9, eharacterized in that wherein said lever (12) is located in the lower zone of said handle (1).

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (withdrawn): The handle as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the means for transmitting the movement of the handle (1) comprise a pivoting pin perpendicular to the gripping part (1a) of the handle (1).

Claims 13-20 (canceled)

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Claim 21 (currently amended): The handle <u>mounted on said rear frame of said vehicle</u> <u>door</u> as claimed in claim [[2]] 3, <u>characterized in that it comprises further comprising</u> means for fastening the support (4) of the handle (1) to the panel or <u>mask</u> (5).

Claim 22 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 21, characterized in that wherein said fastening means comprise two pairs of wings integral with said support (4), located respectively on each upper and lower surface of the support, said wings being mutually parallel and separated by a certain distance; and two U-shaped elements integral with the panel or mask (5), which are coupled respectively between each pair of wings, each pair of wings being respectively fastened to each U-shaped element using a pin or a similar component.

Claim 23 (currently amended): The handle <u>mounted on said rear frame of said vehicle</u> <u>door</u> as claimed in claim [[2]] <u>3</u>, <u>characterized in that it comprises further comprising</u> means for fastening the support (4) and the panel or mask (5) to the rim of the rear frame (20) of the <u>window</u> of the door, particularly the rear door, of the motor vehicle.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The handle as claimed in claim 23, eharacterized in that wherein said fastening means preferably comprise at least two fastening elements which couple the support (4) to the rim of the frame (20) and at least one fastening element which

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retains the panel or mask (5) on the rim of the frame (20).

Claim 25 (withdrawn): The handle as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that it further comprises a guide piece (18), for guiding the downward and/or upward movement of the glass pane of the door window, located on the rim of the frame of the door and to which the support (4) of the handle (1) is fastened.

Claim 26 (withdrawn): The handle as claimed in claim 25, characterized in that the guide piece (18) has guide means (19) comprising a seal at the edge of the glass pane.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The handle as claimed in claim 25, characterized in that the panel or mask (5) is applied to the guide piece (18).

Claim 28 (withdrawn): The handle as claimed in claim 27, characterized in that it comprises means for fastening the panel or mask (5) to the guide piece (18) and means for fastening the support of the handle (1) to the guide piece (18).

Claim 29 (canceled)

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Claim 30 (new): A handle, in particular for motor vehicle strip doors, of the type fastened in a rear frame (20) of a door, comprising a gripping part (1a) that can be actuated manually via a groove (2), a panel (5) located in the same plane as an external surface of said rear frame (20) at a certain distance from the handle (1) so that said panel (5) conceals said handle (1) from the outside, and means for transmitting the movement (6, 7, 9 to 13) of said gripping part (1a) to a lock so as to activate a bolt of said lock to open said door, wherein said transmission means (6, 7, 9 to 13) are arranged in a direction substantially parallel to said gripping part (1a), and mainly in a lower zone thereof, so as to optimize an internal longitudinal space of said rear frame (20.

Claim 31 (new): The handle as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a protective element (24) independent of the gripping part, which prevents dust or rain from entering the handle.